only a matter of a very short time in Mysore and already it looks as if a settlement will be made. Even in the most progressive states there is a restriction of civil liberties.

Among the Princes there stands out one individual whose position is unique. He is a prince without a state, the Aga Khan. He has been granted a salute of guns and the title of "Highness" and he has played a significant role in Indian affairs. Though no Indians invited him so to do, he represented India at the League of Nations, and he also led the British Indian delegation to the Round Table Conference. Above all, he has won the Derby! The British have found him a useful instrument and he is highly popular in English society. His grandfather married a daughter of the Shah of Persia, who gave him the title which is borne by his grandson. After the death of the Shah, he tried to gain the throne and had to flee the country, settling in Bombay. The Aga Khan is hereditary head of a prosperous sect of Mohammedan merchants, who mostly came from Persia. He thus combines spiritual and material advantages!

I have purposely omitted reference to the personal characters of many of the Princes, because I have no desire either to be scandalous or pornographic, but something perhaps should be said on this unsavoury subject.

The ruler of Indore who was deposed was notorious and there is the celebrated Mr "A." In Central India there is a state called Jhabua. A pamphlet published in 1934 gives the following interesting statistics:

The Ruler had nine official *ranees* (queens). In addition to them, he had twenty-six *paswans* and three prostitutes, kept as *paswans.* These *paswans* are women appropriated by the Rajah without the formality of marriage with himself or divorce from any previous husband. Rajahs are above law and therefore commit no offence either moral or legal. *Eachpaswan* represents a tragedy. The same pamphlet quotes from a letter written by one of the *ranees:* "I was married in the year 1912. A few days after the marriage, I found myself in a very difficult position. In a way I am a prisoner in the Palace, and pass my days as a captive in a room. The income from *myjagir* is Rs.n,ooo per annum, but I only get Rs.5 monthly for my expenses. There is no proper arrangement for my necessaries of

life. The other married *ranees* are more or less in similar conditions. One has gone mad on account of